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Attorneys for Potlatch Telephone Company, Inc. and Troy Telephone Company, Inc.

## BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF THE	)	
APPLICATION OF POTLATCH	)	
TELEPHONE COMPANY, INC. AND	)	Case No.
TROY TELEPHONE COMPANY, INC.	)	
FOR AUTHORITY TO MERGE INTO	)	JOINT APPLICATION OF
A SINGLE CORPORATION AND FOR	)	POTLATCH AND TROY TELEPHONE
AN AMENDED CERTIFICATE OF	)	COMPANIES
PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND	)	
NECESSITY.	)	
	_)	

COME NOW Potlatch Telephone Company, Inc. and Troy Telephone Company Inc. (collectively "Applicants"), Idaho Corporations with a general office located at 702 East Main, Post Office Box 138, Kendrick, Idaho 83537, by and through their undersigned counsel, and hereby request authority from the Idaho Public Utilities Commission ("Commission"), pursuant to Idaho Code Sections 61-302, 61-526, 61-528, and 62-615 to merge Troy Telephone Company, Inc. into Potlatch Telephone Company, Inc., effective January 1, 2002. Applicants

respectfully request that the Potlatch Telephone Company's Amended Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity No. 263 be further amended to reflect the addition of Troy Telephone Company's Amended Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity No. 201. The proposed merger of the two companies into a single corporation does not include a proposed change in rates for the customers of Applicants.

In support of this application, Applicants states as follows:

I.

Applicants are telecommunications corporations and public utilities engaged in the provision of telecommunication services within the State of Idaho under authority of Amended Commission Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity Nos. 263 and 201. *See* Exhibit "A" attached hereto. The Commission has regulatory jurisdiction pursuant to Title 61, Idaho Code. The Commission has jurisdiction over the transfer of telephone exchanges pursuant to Idaho Code Sections 61-302, 61-526, 61-528, and 62-615.

II.

Applicants are authorized to engage in and are now engaged in the furnishing of general telephone service in Kendrick, Julietta, and Troy, Idaho and the immediate surrounding areas. The local exchange and intrastate service offered by the Applicants in Idaho are furnished subject to the jurisdiction of the Idaho Public Utilities Commission.

III.

Potlatch Telephone Company, Inc. shall be the surviving corporation following the merger effective January 1, 2002. The Agreement and Plan of Merger to be adopted by the Board of Directors of Potlatch and Troy by unanimous written consent is attached as Exhibit "B."

The merger of the two corporations will not impact the day to day operations or services provided by the Applicants. While Potlatch Telephone Company will assume official control and responsibility for providing local exchange service within the exchange areas on January 1, 2002, the Applicants' operations have been operating from the Kendrick office for several years. This merger will reduce the administrative requirements of the two companies.

V.

The Applicants will prepare individual Annual Public Utilities Commission reports for the year ended 2001 and a single Annual Public Utilities Commission report for the year ended 2002 forward.

## VI.

Effective January 1, 2002, the Applicants request authority for Potlatch to continue to apply the Troy Telephone Company rates and tariff provisions to the former Troy exchange areas indefinitely. Potlatch will apply for authority to combine the Potlatch and Troy tariff provisions, other than rates, into a single coherent tariff in the first half of 2002. Attached as Exhibit "C" is an outline of the tariff Potlatch expects to file. Combining the two tariffs should reduce the number of tariff updates for the Applicants in the future.

#### VII.

The public interest does not require a hearing on this application and Applicants therefore requests this matter be handled without hearing pursuant to Rule 23 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure. If a hearing is necessary, Applicants stand ready for, and respectfully requests, an immediate hearing.

VIII.

Applicants have notified their end users and access customers of the proposed

merger pursuant to the notice attached as Exhibit "D."

WHEREFORE, Applicants respectfully petitions the Idaho Public Utilities

Commission as follows:

1. That the proposed Plan of Merger submitted as Exhibit "B" be approved

and made effective by the Commission as of January 1, 2002.

2. That the Commission grant Potlatch Telephone Company an amended

Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity which reflects authority to serve all of the areas

described in the Exhibit "A" Certificates.

3. That the Commission grant Potlatch Telephone Company authority to

continue to apply the Troy Telephone Company rates and tariffs to the Troy Telephone Company

exchange areas until such time as the tariffs are amended.

4. That this application be heard and acted upon without hearing under

modified procedure; and

5. For such other relief as the Commission may determine proper herein.

DATED this day of November, 2001.

MOFFATT, THOMAS, BARRETT, ROCK & FIELDS, CHARTERED

Bv

Morgan W. Richards

Attorneys for Potlatch Telephone Company, Inc.

and Troy Telephone Company, Inc.

# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on the	his day of	, 2001, I caused to
be served a true copy of the foregoing <b>JOINT</b>	APPLICATION OF P	OTLATCH AND TROY
TELEPHONE COMPANIES by the method	indicated below.	
Jean Jewell Commission Secretary Idaho Public Utilities Commission 472 West Washington Post Office Box 83720 Boise, Idaho 83720 Fax: (208) 334-3762	<ul><li>( ) U.S. Mail, Posta</li><li>( ) Hand Delivered</li><li>( ) Overnight Mail</li><li>( ) Facsimile</li></ul>	ge Prepaid
$\overline{\mathbf{N}}$	Morgan W. Richards	

# **EXHIBIT "D"**

The following bill message appear on the Potlatch and Troy CABS bills for the October cycle 28:

TDS TELECOM Requests Potlatch and Troy Merger

TDS TELECOM will file a request with the Idaho Public Utilities Commission in early November 2001, to combine their Potlatch and Troy companies. The proposed merger will have no impact on rates/services or changes in day-to-day operations. Customers may send written comments to ID PUC, P.O. Box 83720, Boise, ID 83720-0074 or by visiting www.puc.state.id.us. All comments must be received in writing.

EXHIBIT "D"

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